

AKA
The Annexe!



PARTICK
HEALTHY LIVING CENTRE

ANNUAL

REPORT

2024-25

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Our Story so Far
- Chairperson's Remarks
- The Annexe Cafe
- Facilities
- Energy Improvements
- Finance
- Social Prescribing Project
- Participatory Budgeting
- Let Partick Flourish Project
- Onwards & Upwards Project
- Acknowledgements



OUR STORY SO FAR

Our Background

Annexe Communities began life as Partick Community Association in 1986. Residents campaigned and secured the lease of The Annexe, a former school building in Stewartville Street in 1998 - from Glasgow City Council. In 2000 the charity established a thriving and enterprising Healthy Living Centre. Known locally as 'The Annexe' – a community-led charity.

1987

Registered as a charity:

**PARTICK
COMMUNITY ASSOC**



Our Vision

A Glasgow where people are empowered and inspired to be healthy and flourish.

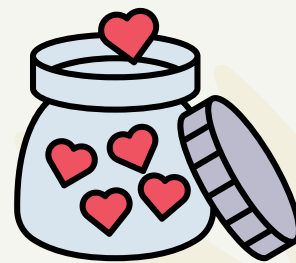
Our Mission

To connect and enable people to develop their potential.

Our Priorities

- To create **opportunities** for local groups and people to come together - to discuss local needs and get involved in shaping local community activity;
- To work with people experiencing **social isolation or poor health** to raise their aspirations, make informed lifestyle choices and reconnect with community life;
- To **support local volunteers**, to build their capacity to make a positive difference in their lives and communities

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS



This past year has been significant and eventful for us, marked by major achievements, transitions, and continued impact within the community.

Perhaps most notably, the Annexe building is now close to being under community ownership – a landmark moment that secures our future as a vital community asset. It reflects the dedication and hard work of many over a long period, and I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make it happen.

We also installed a new heat pump system and solar panels with battery storage. These upgrades are already cutting energy costs and reducing our environmental impact. Securing funding was no small task, and we're deeply grateful to all who supported us.

Our key projects continue to thrive. **Let Partick Flourish** remains strong, offering support with cost-of-living challenges and helping smaller groups become sustainable and impactful.

Onwards & Upwards continues to provide vital support to volunteers, making a real difference in the community.

The **Social Prescribing** programme remains central to our work, with many participants reporting greater confidence and wellbeing. A particularly inspiring outcome has been the creation of a peer-led group that now meets weekly for activities and mutual support. The **Partick and Thornwood Ideas Fund** has also continued to back grassroots initiatives, helping a wide range of local projects get off the ground.

Following our successful partnership with Glasgow Caledonian University, we've launched a new research project with the University of Glasgow, reinforcing our commitment to community-led research. While some funding ended this year, we're actively exploring new options and remain focused on sustaining and growing our services.

There were also key team changes. In April, we welcomed Kashif as General Manager and Colin as a new team member. In February, Peter Taylor stepped down as Chair after many years of service. We thank him for his commitment and wish him well as he begins a new chapter closer to family.

We also marked the retirement of Julie in April - a respected and much-loved member of the Annexe. Her outstanding contribution to Partick was warmly celebrated, and we wish her all the best in retirement.

Thanks to our staff, volunteers, partners, and community for your support over the past year. We move forward with determination and hope you'll continue to stand with us.

Cathie Connelly,
Annexe Board Chairperson



Supported by a grant from the Virgin Money Foundation

THE ANNEXE CAFE

Summary

The **Community Cafe** continue to serve as the heart of the Annexe, welcoming both **newcomers and regulars** alike. It's often the first stop for anyone new to the centre. Under the expert guidance of **Tony**, our dedicated cook, we continue to serve fresh, nutritious meals that bring people together. Tony is supported by a wonderful team of **volunteer cafe assistants**, ensuring the cafe remains a welcoming space for all. Rising food and energy costs continue to challenge us, but with the continued support of the **Bank of Scotland Foundation**, we have been able to cover core costs and keep the cafe running as a **vital community resource**.



Our **Lunch Club** offers excellent value, with a **three-course meal for just £6**. Thanks to the **Development Trust Association Scotland (DTAS)**, we provided **850 free £6 lunch vouchers** to those in need this year. The cafe is a popular spot for socializing, with many taking home a main course to enjoy later. Tony's **Farmers Veg Soup** is always a customer favourite, and our rotating menu keeps people coming back for more.



320

estimated individual
customers access cafe
this year

64

Folk enjoyed the social
cafe during 2024/25

4

Different volunteers helped
in the cafe throughout the
year



Festive Lunch

Further Info

Our cafe continues to prioritize sustainability and affordability through its participation in the **Fareshare supermarket food surplus scheme**. By sourcing in-date food, we're able to reduce food supply costs while providing healthy, low-cost meals to our community. This year, we continue our partnership with the **Neighbourly scheme**, working closely with our **local Sainsbury's**. Our dedicated volunteer makes daily collections of near-dated items using a specially designed handcart, ensuring that quality food is kept out of landfills. The food is then used for cafe meals, group snacks, and is available for local residents to collect—it's truly a win-win!

Our Free Monday **Social Cafe** remains a cornerstone of community engagement. It's the perfect space for newcomers to connect, enjoy a warm drink, and find out **what's happening at the Annexe**. Whether it's sharing a cup of tea, joining in an activity, or simply having a friendly chat, the cafe continues to provide a **welcoming environment** for all. A wonderful **starting point** for anyone new to the Annexe!



Fareshare surplus - COL group

Feedback from Cafe/Social cafe:

“ Very good value for money ”

“ Cafe is a godsend for people on their own. The food is excellent and there's a good social atmosphere. A heaven for disable folks in particular ”



During 2024-25 the Development Trust Association Scotland - supported 850 x £6 cafe food vouchers - issued to folk in need

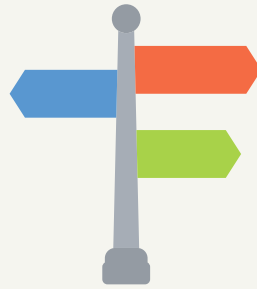


Social Cafe

“ Great place to meet nice people. A real pick-me-up to come in on a Monday morning and be greeted with friendly, smiling faces ”

Supported by funding from Bank of Scotland Foundation & DTAS

ANNEXE FACILITIES



Summary

Our weekly and seasonal programmes at the Annexe include a range of popular free or subsidised classes and activities. Some are volunteer-led and others are supported by different funders. Activities during 2024/25 included:

Exercise: Chair and Gentle Yoga, Jazzercise and Line Dancing

Creative: Westend Warblers Community Choir, Partick Pluckers Ukulele Group, Annexe Art and Stewartville Strummers Guitar Group

Social: Knit and Natter, Circle Dancing Group, Social Café, Friendship Group and Partick phoenix walking group

Wellbeing: Meditation, Dreams & Aspirations Group, Branching Out, Healthy Cooking on a Budget, Digital Inclusion support and Cost of Living Support Group

Facilities Hire

When the Annexe is not used for our own activities, rooms are hired out to generate an income. Rooms were mainly hired for meetings, training, music workshops, events and sport therapies.

28

Hours of activities per week on average

19

Different activities offered

3

Different funders contributed to cost of activities

The Annexe is a charitable social enterprise and raises funds from room hire, cafe sales and donations. Thanks to all who donate and raise funds to help towards core building costs!

ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS

NET ZERO



Summary

Annexe Communities partnered with **Business Energy Scotland** to carry out an energy audit, aiming to make our building more efficient and environmentally friendly. The plan focused on boosting **insulation**, replacing our outdated gas boiler with a modern **air source heat pump** and **smart controls**, and installing **solar panels with battery storage**. These improvements will help cut energy costs, reduce our carbon footprint, and move us closer to a more sustainable, low-carbon future.



Outcomes & Achievements

After successfully securing planning permission and a building warrant, the installation was **completed by February 2025**. These improvements have already led to a noticeable **drop in carbon emissions**. As energy costs decrease, more funds can be directed toward community programmes. Annexe Communities will continue to optimise the systems for even **greater efficiency**.

36KW

Air source heat pump

9.8KW

PV solar panels

17.4KW

Battery storage



Funded by CARES
Match Funding: Itison,
FCC Communities Fund



itison



2024/25

FINANCE



We continue to strive for financial stability by generating income through café & rental and applying for charitable grants and donations.

Income

- Annual turnover in 2024-25 was **£330,181** (£322,122 in 2023-24)
- **£586,203** funds carried forward this year including £362,694 fixed assets
- We raised **£20,006** from donations
- We managed grants totalling **£263,976**
- We generated **£38,424** from trading activities (cafe, room rental and courses)
- **Net Surplus £30,991**

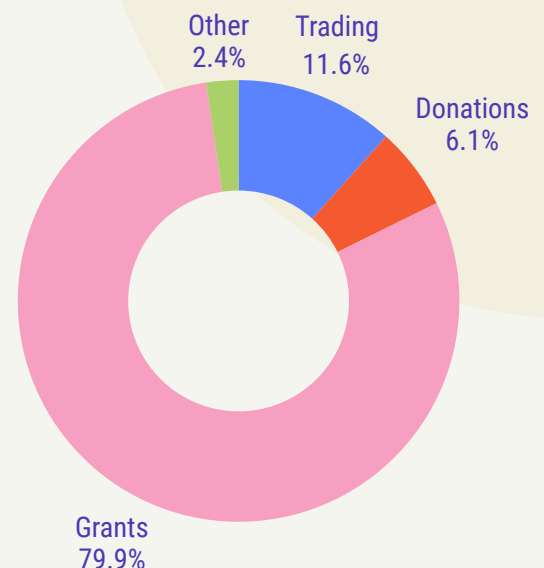
Expenditure

- Direct costs of charitable activities in 2024-25 was **£299,190**
 - Including **£192,368** on staff costs: wages, NI and pension
 - We are committed to paying the **Real Living Wage**.
 - Annexe had 8 staff and a further 6 specialist sessional staff in 2024/25.

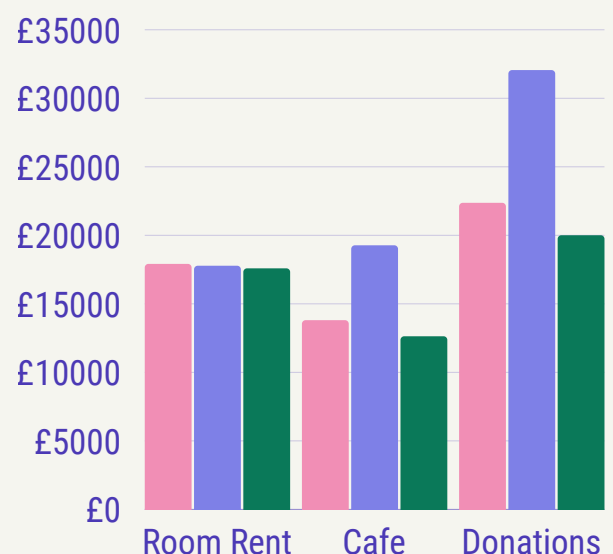
Plans for 2025-26

- Finalise the **Community Ownership** for the Annexe building
- Monitor & Improve the **Energy Efficiency Measures**
- Develop & deliver **Activities and Services** include new fundings

Income source:



Income comparison: past 3 years:



SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Summary

Annexe Social Prescribing Programme offers support to individuals for a period of 3 months or longer if required. This involves meeting the individual's needs to **improve their health and wellbeing** resulting in being more socially connected.

Referrals are still predominantly received from GP's plus other health professionals and DWP Partick Jobcentre but have recently opened to other organisations such as Glasgow Life, Jobs & Business Glasgow, We Are With You, SAMH and Let Partick Flourish.



The Friendship Group



10 Pin Bowling

Anyone referred automatically becomes a **member of the Annexe** and can enjoy all of the activities we have to offer. Although some people require support to access services outwith e.g. Men Matter, Glasgow Wood Recycling Project, The Wisegroup, Differabled Neurodivergent Support Group, Headway, AA, Lifelink plus many more.

“It's fulfilling - a source of solace and contentment, peace of mind away from the maddening crowd, a listening ear. Problem shared is a problem halved. You feel you can relax and the company is second to none. Feel a lot more better when you go home having come, you are a lot happier”

“I was made to feel like an old friend the first time i came here”

Stats for 2024/25

106

People referred

93

SP clients accessed
15 Annexe activities

23

Services accessed
outwith Annexe

Activities

The Social Prescribing Group have gone from strength to strength this year enjoying getting creative with Candle Making, Painting and Model Making as well as trips to places of interest. The outings have included visits to The Govan Stones, enjoying GlasGLOW event in the Botanic Gardens and 10 pin bowling at the Quay.

Some group members underwent **First Aid Training** with our very own volunteer Ben, receiving certificates in recognition of their achievement. Many have also benefited from taking part in our **Cooking on a Budget** 4 week classes.

They were also successful in securing **Participatory Budget funds** and recently organised a trip to Largs and are in the process of making future plans.

“Thank you for keeping an eye on me, looking out for me and trying to help. I appreciate everything you’ve done for me”

“My mental wellbeing is better since coming here and my children are amazed at the difference”



Cooking on a Budget

“It’s the only regular positive thing I have in my life”

“It means safety, security and somewhere to come meet friends”



Govan Stones visit

Funded by Scottish
Government -
Investing in
Communities Fund



PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING



PARTICK &
THORNWOOD
IDEAS FUND

Summary

Partick and Thornwood Ideas Fund is a Participatory Budgeting (PB) initiative funded by the Scottish Government Investing in Communities fund. **PB is a democratic way for local people to have a direct say on how public money is spent in their community.**

Residents can apply to fund an idea that will benefit the local area. Ideas are limitless but must benefit the local community. **Ideas are put to public vote** and those with most votes get funding



Meet the Ideas - PB Event



Community Christmas Dinner - Partick
Victoria Park Church



Two rounds of funding went to public vote during 2024-25. A total of **£16,500**, was disbursed to **17 local community benefit ideas.**

Grants awarded in 2024-25 ranged from **£350 to £1000**

Community benefit ideas included: Thornwood primary school fixup, social cafe trip, creative art sessions, knitting group, walking group, community open day, volunteer training, free community yoga, partick film festival, community christmas meal, support to local playwrights and more...



152 Local Volunteers Involved in
project during 2024/25

Project Statistics:



“**Social cafe trip** - I would like to thank everyone who organised this trip, it was truly a wonderful day and much needed to laugh again, Thanks!

”

“**Mind & Draw** - Would love to do more of this, the lack of free creative activities is hard to find

”



Partick Film Festival

“**Elie Street Nursery** - The children have become more independent choosing their own outfits, knowing what colour & size they need. I have watched them following the new routine comfortably and excitedly.

”

Funded by Scottish
Government -
Investing in
Communities Fund



LET PARTICK FLOURISH PROJECT

Summary

Let Partick Flourish is in its second year, funded by The National Lottery Community Fund Scotland. The Cost of Living Support Group continues, now with a Friday Freezer Service, and we've joined the #Neighbourly Scheme to reduce food waste and distribute more food locally. Thanks to funding from Glasgow University students (via "Save Our Sandwiches"), Morris & Spottiswood, Glasgow City Council Area Budget Committee (Ward 23), and Civic GRID, we've been able to carry out these initiatives. We couldn't do this without your support and our amazing volunteers! In partnership with Partick Housing Association and Partick Community Growing Project, we secured funding to distribute Festive Food Boxes and host local free events. A collaboration between SWG3, our Dreams and Aspirations Group, and Hyndland Primary School led to the creation of the "Stories of the Clyde" mural on Fortrose Street. Cycling UK and Dynamo Bike Shop also provided 10 local people with new bikes and accessories, encouraging more cycling in the community.



Well done everyone, Partick looks amazing,
"Wonderful what they do and the difference
it makes" - painted mural & electric boxes



Canoeing at loch Ard Adventure Centre

It's nice to be appreciated and give
my time to such a good cause -
volunteer



PARTICK COMMUNIVERSITY

LET PARTICK MOVE MORE

JOIN US AT THE PARTICK COMMUNIVERSITY

YOU CAN GET INVOLVED AS MUCH OR AS LITTLE AS YOU WANT!



BENEFITS CAN INCLUDE:

- Engagement in various activities
- Socialising over a free lunch
- Attending workshops and meetings (coverage for expenses/ travel costs provided).



WHO CAN TAKE PART?

We would welcome people who live in the Partick area and are interested in finding out more about getting moving. People who are new to physical activity or have a little experience and want to do more are especially welcome.



HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?



Welcome Event
at the Annexe



Workshops



Meetings

Let Partick Move More

Other Activities

Cost of Living Support Group volunteers were invited to the King's Garden Party in July '24, in recognition of their hard work. And yes, sandwiches with the crusts off!

The 10-week Summer '24 Branching Out course – thanks to Craig from Operation Play Outdoors – provided more outdoor opportunities to develop essential skills like fire building, archery, team building, and canoeing.

100 Christmas food boxes - were delivered to local people in need of some festive cheer, thanks to PHA and our wonderful volunteers!



Top volunteer Louisa at Fareshare pickup

The Cost of Living Support Group and Friday Freezer - saved, on average, one tonne of perfectly good food from landfill each month, distributing it locally.

Dreams and Aspirations - were invited to the Glasgow Science Centre for science activities, including a private Dark Side of the Moon showing in their planetarium.

Let Partick Flourish - in partnership with the University of Glasgow, is training 15 local people to become community peer researchers. Go, Communiversity!

“

Thank you for thinking of me, this is amazing. I now have my own bike so don't need to pay for the Glasgow Bike Hire scheme, saving me £45 a week! -

Beneficiary of Cost of Living Support group”

”

“

My grandkids had the best day flying kites, having their faces painted, drumming and painting!!! Thank you so much -

Resident at Harbour free community event”

”



“

This is the healthiest I have been eating as have to make meals with all these vegetables I could not usually afford to buy - Cost of living support group

”



Funder:

**COMMUNITY
FUND**

ROBERTSON TRUST

ONWARDS & UPWARDS PROJECT

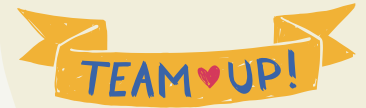
In 2024-25, we supported 29 volunteers through the **Onwards and Upwards project**, funded by the **Robertson Trust**. This initiative mentors volunteers to develop personalized pathways, providing community roles, PVG certification, accredited training, and practical experience. The project also collaborates with local and Annexe initiatives to recruit and guide **volunteers**, enhancing their skills and employability.



Big Partick Picnic

Volunteer roles have had a **positive impact** on mental and physical health, reducing isolation, building skills and confidence, and fostering **new relationships**. Volunteers feel valued and more integrated into community life, empowering individuals and **strengthening the local community**.

One volunteer applied for a relief reception worker role, succeeded in the interview, and is now a paid Annexe staff member. Additionally, peer researchers with **Communiversality** led four successful workshops on exercise attitudes, including interviews, surveys, and discussions with local focus groups. They presented their findings at a stakeholder meeting. Dr. T. Ibotson from GU commented: **"Feedback has been fantastic. The data collected is rich and valuable – well done!"**



29

Volunteers supported

200

Food boxes packed & delivered

7

Different trainings undertaken



Volunteer Peer Researcher

Further Info

Volunteers got involved in the following tasks and roles:

Festive Boxes for families
Cafe Assistants
Reception Assistants
Community Peer Research
Events Assistants
First Aid Tutor
Arts Tutor
Charity Walk
Cost of Living Group
Freezer Friday's
Guitar Group
Cooking Class Assistant

Volunteer Case Study

“ Thanks so much for your help on this (volunteer placement with SWG3), I appreciate it a lot ”



“ This is the first place I like and enjoy the management- feel like they care (that's rare) - volunteer at Dreams and Aspirations ”



Community Peer Researchers



Volunteer at SWG3



First Aid Training Session



Charity walk by Volunteer

“ I like to give back- The Annexe is in a community which I care about” - Volunteer ”

Funder:



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Annexe's success is built on the dedication and hard work of our incredible team - both staff and volunteers. We couldn't do what we do without your ongoing support. To everyone who contributed their time and energy this year, including our board members, we extend a huge thank you for your commitment to our mission. Your efforts make all the difference!

Board of directors:

Peter Taylor - Chairperson (resigned 28.2.25)

Cathie Connelly - Chairperson

Benjamin Lindsey - Treasurer

Sandra White - Vice-Chairperson

Sandra Jackson - Director

Colin Ross - Director

Karyn MacDonald - Director

Jennifer Jones - Director (resigned 16.10.24)

Mary Lazou - Director (resigned 16.10.25)

Contact Us

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Scottish Charity number: SC002491

Registered Company number: SC215070

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF

THE ANNEXE!